

REMARKS

This Amendment, filed in response to the Office Action (“Action”) mailed July 17, 2008, is believed to fully address all and every issue raised in the Action. A favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Claims Disposition

In the Action, claims 5-20 were considered and rejected.

Upon entry of the amendment, claims 5, 9-13, and 17-20 will be pending in the application. Claim 1 is amended to incorporate the features of claims 6 and 7 and in order to bring it in a better suitable format. Claim 13 is amended to incorporate the features of claim 14 and 15 as well as to bring it in a better suitable format. Claims 6-8 and 14-16 are canceled.

Claims 9-12 and 17-20 are amended to correct claim dependency or improve wordings.

Support for the amendments to claims 5, 9, 13, and 17 may be found, for example by original claims 6, 7, 14, and 15 as well as by the disclosure of the first full paragraph on page 5, the first full paragraph on page 7, and the paragraph bridging pages 8-9 of the specification.

No new matter is introduced and entry of the amendment is respectfully requested.

Formal Matters

Applicants thank the Examiner for acknowledging claim for foreign priority and the receipt of the certified copy of the priority documents.

Applicant further thank the Examiner for returning an initialed copy of SB/08 Form, indicating the references listed in the Form were considered.

Response to Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103

At pages 2-3 of the Action, claims 5-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as assertedly being anticipated by Ikejima (U.S. Pat. No. 6,667,281).

At page 3 of the Action, claims 5-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as assertedly being anticipated by Okaniwa (U.S. Pat. No. 5,607,906).

At pages 3-4 of the Action, claim 12 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as assertedly being unpatentable over Ikejima in view of Kinoshita (U.S. Pat. No. 4,371,446).

At pages 4-5 of the Action, claims 13-19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as assertedly being unpatentable over Kurokawa (U.S. PG Pub. No. 2002/0046897) in view of Ikejima.

At page 5 of the Action, claim 20 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kurokawa in view of Ikejima as applied to claims 13-19 above, and further in view of Kinoshita.

Applicants respectfully traverse.

Without acquiescing the rejections, Applicant amends claims 5 and 13 to more clearly set forth the subject matter as well as to incorporate the subject matter of original claims 6-7 and claims 14-15, respectively.

None of the references, either alone or in combination, teach or suggest every and each limitation of currently amended independent claims 5 and 13, in particular the value of the dynamic viscosity of the base oil and the base number of the Ca sulfonate.

Neither do they teach or suggest the use or effects of using the lubricating grease and Ca sulfonate additive, defined in the currently amended claims of the present application.

Furthermore, none of Ikejima, Okaniwa, Kinoshita, and Kurokawa teach effects of lowering the coefficient of friction between a metal member (metal worm) and a resin member (resin worm wheel) at the room temperature (claims 9 and 17).

Accordingly, it is believed that the rejections are not sustainable and withdrawal is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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